

REMARKS

Claims 1-66 were in this case as filed. Claims 1-17, 51-56 and 63-66 have been canceled as directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 18, 21, 33 and 40 have been amended and new claims 67-75 have been added. Claims 18-50, 57-62 and 67-75 are now in this case.

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended to correct a number of typographic and clerical errors.

Obvious errors in punctuation (e.g., removal of excess periods) and errors in spelling and grammar have been corrected on pages 2, 4, 5, 6, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23, 27, 28, 30, 31, 36, 37, 39 and 40.

On page 18, the bibliographic reference to the thesis of T. Young has been corrected to improve clarity.

On pages 30-35, chemical reactions and chemical formulas have been replaced to improve legibility.

In several places in the specification, decimal notation has been corrected, for example, on page 38, two recitations of ".1" have been properly rewritten as "0.1."

Pages 31-34, 36, 39-42 as filed contained hand-written symbols (Greek Letters). These pages have been amended to add typed Greek letters.

To facilitate amendment of the specification, with respect to the replaced chemical formulas and the addition of typed Greek letters, replacement pages for pages 30-43 of the specification are attached to this response. These replacement pages do not contain new matter and reflect the amendments indicated in this submission.

Claim Amendments

Claim 18 has been amended to improve its clarity by adding the definition of Ar and "*" from page 14 of the specification.

Claims 21 and 33 have been amended to delete extraneous ":" (colons).

Claim 40 has been amended to properly indicate the subscripted "2" in $-\text{CH}_2-$.

New claims 67-74 are directed to protected amino acids in which M is either

–(CR₂)_m– or –(CH₂)_m– and kits in which in the azide protected amino acid the variable M is –(CR₂)_m– or –(CH₂)_m–. These new claims are supported in the definition of M on page 14 of the specification.

New claim 75 is directed to protected amino acids of claim 18 which are L-amino acids which is supported on page 14, last line on the page.

The new claims are fully supported in the specification and the amendments do not add new matter to the application.

Restriction/Election Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction of the claims in this case into two groups. Claims 1-17, 51-56 and 63-66 are classified into Group I drawn to methods. Claims 18-50 and 57-62 are classified into Group II drawn to protected amino acids, kits and methods for synthesizing peptides. In addition, if Group II is elected the Examiner has required an election of species in which a single M species of the formula in claim 18 is elected.

Applicants elect prosecution of the claims of Group II without traverse and elect the species where M is (CH₂)_m and, if necessary, where m is 1, with traverse.

Claims 18-26, 29-38, 41-50 and 57-62 are generic claims of Group II which are believed to be allowable and which, as such, represent proper linking claims for the species encompassed by the formula of claim 18. Thus, the requirement for election is improper. In the event that the requirement for election of species is maintained, Applicants respectfully request that on a finding of allowability of one or more generic claims that a reasonable number of additional species be rejoined with the elected species and examined.

Conclusion

This response is accompanied by a Petition for Extension of Time of Three Months with appropriate fee. It is believed this submission does not require the payment of additional fees of excess claims. If this is incorrect, please deduct the appropriate additional fees from deposit account 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,


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